

February 24, 2023

In support of a \$20 million allocation for community violence reduction efforts.

To members of the Appropriations Committee, Chairs Osten and Walker, Vice Chairs Exum and Hartley and Ranking Members Berthel and Nuccio:

My name is Jane Zande and I am a member of Congregation Beth Israel in West Hartford. My congregation is a founding member of the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance, or GHIAA.

I am in support of a \$20 million dollar allocation over 2 years to fund community violence reduction efforts across the state. Street outreach efforts have proven to be effective in saving lives.

The issue of gun violence affects all of us. It became personal for me when my former co-worker's only son was killed in gun violence in 2017. It made me realize how senseless this violence is, and how we are all responsible to help with efforts to reduce gun violence. We already have people working on the front lines. Let's allocate the right amount of funds to ensure their success.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jane Zande  
West Hartford